

## Message Text

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12  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 ARA-06 DIWY-01 IO-10 H-02 SS-15

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R 281602Z AUG 75  
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1433  
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, DA, US  
SUBJECT: ANGELA DAVIS IN COPENHAGEN

SUMMARY: ANGELA DAVIS WAS THE MAJOR ATTRACTION AT A TWO-DAY WOMEN'S MOVEMENT FESTIVAL ARRANGED BY LEFT-WING WOMEN'S GROUPS IN COPENHAGEN AUGUST 23-24. HER SPEECH DEALT HEAVILY WITH THE PUERTO RICO INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT AND LOLITA LEBRON, CURRENTLY IN PRISON IN WEST VIRGINIA IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOTORIOUS SHOOTING IN CONGRESS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE WOMEN'S FESTIVAL IN COMMONS PARK IN COPENHAGEN WAS THE SECOND SUCH DEMONSTRATION OF WOMEN'S POWER ARRANGED BY LEFT-WING POLITICAL AND NON-POLITICAL WOMEN'S GROUPS. ATTENDANCE DURING THE ENTIRE WEEK-END WAS PROBABLY ABOUT 20,000 PERSONS WITH 10,000 BEING PRESENT FOR THE MAIN SPEECH BY ANGELA DAVIS AUGUST 24. AMONG THE ORGANIZATIONS BEHIND THE FESTIVAL WERE THE "RED STOCKING MOVEMENT", "THE LESBIAN MOVEMENT", "THE SOCIETY OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN",  
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AND THE WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS OF THE VARIOUS POLITICAL

PARTIES. THE THEME OF THE FESTIVAL WAS "NO CLASS STRUGGLE WITHOUT THE WOMEN'S STRUGGLE; NO WOMEN'S STRUGGLE WITHOUT CLASS STRUGGLE."

2. ANGELA DAVIS' SPEECH WAS THE MAIN EVENT ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON. SHE RECOUNTED HER OWN PRISON AND TRIAL EXPERIENCES AND OF JOAN LITTLE IN A LOW-KEY MANNER LARGELY CONSISTENT WITH PRESS ACCOUNTS. PICKING UP JOAN LITTLE'S COMMENT: "THEY TRIED TO MAKE ME FEEL I WAS LESS THEN NOTHING, WHICH I COULD NOT ACCEPT. I AM SOMEBODY\*", DAVIS PITCHED INTO THE MORE EMOTION-LADEN HISTRIONIC PORTION OF THE SPEECH. CALLING ON HER AUDIENCE TO ACCEPT THE "WE ARE SOMEBODY" THEME FOR THE CONTINUED STRUGGLE, SHE ARGUED THAT THE SOLIDARITY OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT WOULD GIVE IT A STRENGTH GREATER THAN THAT OF ITS SUPPRESSORS. "WE SHALL SEE THE DAY WHEN IMPERIALISM, FASCISM AND SEXISM ARE NO MORE\*".

3. IN CONCLUDING, SHE FOCUSED ON THE PLIGHT OF PUERTO RICAN WOMEN AND THE PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT. CITING SPECIFICALLY THE CASE OF LOLITA LEBRON, SHE APPEALED FOR INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT BEHIND "THE DEMAND FOR FREEDOM FOR LOLITA LEBRON AND FOR PUERTO RICO." WHEN SHE FINISHED SHE HAD THE AUDIENCE LIFTING THEIR ARMS RHYTHMICALLY IN THE AIR IN THE BLACK POWER SALUTE.

4. DAVIS HAS CAREFULLY AVOIDED ANY OFFICIAL ASSOCIATION HERE WITH THE DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY, SINCE THE WOMEN'S FESTIVAL WAS "UNIFIED FRONT" OPERATION. HER OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE IN COMING TO COPENHAGEN WAS TO PROMOTE THE PUBLICATION OF HER AUTOBIOGRAPHY JUST NOW APPEARING ON THE SCANDINAVIAN MARKET. SHE WILL BE VISITING OTHER SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES DURING THIS JAUNT BUT HER SCHEDULE IS NOT YET KNOWN. SHE HAS RECEIVED MASSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE IN WHICH SHE HAS STRESSED HER POLITICAL OBJECTIVE - THE BUILDING OF A MASS MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ON THE REMAINS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH SUPPORTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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## Message Attributes

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